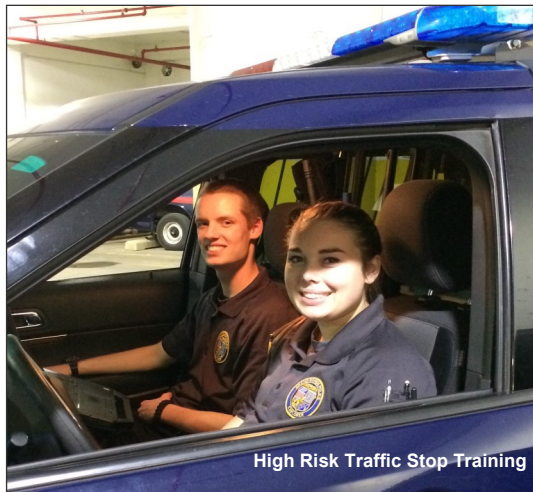




***“Our role is to give
Explorers meaningful insight
into what it means
to be a police officer.”***

Lieutenant Maureen O'Brien
Advisor, Explorer Post #1871



Professional / Progressive / Responsive

Grand Rapids Police Department

Grand Rapids Police Explorer Post #1871



***Real-World
Career Experience
in the field of
Law Enforcement***

Questions? Please contact us!

Grand Rapids Police Department
01 Monroe Center NW
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Recruiting Office
(616) 456-3301
GRPDrecruiting@grcity.us

Visit us on the Web & Facebook





What IS Exploring?

Exploring is Learning for Life's career education program for young men and women who are at least 14 to 21 years old. For involvement in the program, young adults are selected through an application and background process that is facilitated by the Grand Rapids Police Department. Color, race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, ethnic background, economic status, and citizenship are not criteria for participation.

Exploring is all about helping young adults make a more informed decision about future law enforcement careers and determine if a police career is right for them. It is better to learn that a career is not for you, as a young adult, rather than after spending money on an education to only THEN discover you do not like the career!

Exploring Advisors provide real-world career experiences for young adults. Exploring is not all lecture and slide shows...it is about gaining *practical hands-on experience* in the law enforcement field. Our program will help youth pursue their special interests, grow, and develop.

GRPD Explorers

While members of the Grand Rapids Police Department's program, our Explorers will learn the purpose, mission, and objectives of law enforcement. Our program provides career orientation experiences, leadership opportunities, and community service activities. Exploring combines classroom training with hands-on scenarios and tactics training. Explorers will also participate in police ride-alongs, firearms training, community policing, and much more!



gram, Explorers will:

- Learn important skills centered on leadership, self-confidence, and problem solving
- Participate in hands-on training to give them a real feel for whether or not this career is right for them
- Develop character building and critical thinking skills
- Learn law enforcement protocols
- Learn about the educational requirements necessary for a career in law enforcement and network with professional mentors to receive tangible advice on steps they can take now to prepare and position themselves for a successful career in the field of law enforcement

Our Background

The Grand Rapids Police Explorer Post #1871 was founded in 2015. Our dedicated staff, comprised of command and patrol officers, have made it their mission to build this program into a top-notch program for young adults, with the purpose of learning about, and competing in, the law enforcement field.

These young adults will be provided the very best in training and will be ready for their future law enforcement endeavors after participation in our program. Our mission is to cultivate future responsible and caring adult employees, by impacting the Explorers' education process to better prepare them for a transition from school to the work force. Our youth are not only offered the Exploring program, but they also have future employment opportunities with the Grand Rapids Police Department, as paid Police Interns, once they have entered college and the possibility of a future position as a police officer with our department.

At the annual Police Explorer State Competition held in April 2017, our Explorer Post had two teams compete, one of which placed 2nd in the overall competition out of 40 teams, and the other placed 20th. This speaks to the caliber of our Explorers, Advisors, and the program, itself, since this was only our second year competing in the annual event at Fort Custer Army National Guard Training Center, just north of Battle Creek, MI.

